

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of sick SSI at the end of March 2000
13.	Meghalaya	528
14.	Nagaland	168
15.	Orissa	7444
16.	Punjab	1897
17.	Rajasthan	7560
18.	Tamil Nadu	11602
19.	Tripura	7170
20.	Uttar Pradesh	21235
21.	West Bengal	143893
22.	Sikkim	25
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	31
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	120
25.	Chandigarh	150
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	46
27.	Delhi	3309
28.	Goa	161
29.	Lakshadweep	N.A.
30.	Mizoram	41
31.	Pondicherry	1052
32.	Daman and Diu	10
TOTAL:		304235

NOTE: The information given above for Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh States includes that of the newly formed States Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal respectively.

Survival of SSIs

218. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the impact on the survival of small scale industries in the country as a result of lifting of the Quantitative

Restrictions (QRs) on the remaining 715 items by March, 31st, 2001; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to safeguard these industries which contribute about 30 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) While the removal of remaining Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) will expose Small Scale Industries (SSIs) to greater competition, the SSIs in India have enough resilience to withstand its impact, as is evident from their recent track record.

(b) The Government has recently announced a comprehensive policy package to strengthen the small scale sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally. The policy package *inter-alia* includes enhancement of exemption limit for payment of excise duty from Rs. 50.00 lakhs to Rs. 1.00 crore, easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs, launching of a scheme of credit linked capital subsidy off 12% for technology upgradation, continuing the scheme of granting Rs. 75000 to each SSI for obtaining ISO 9000 certification till the end of the 10th Plan, assistance of one time capital grant of 50% on reimbursement basis to SSI Associations to set up and operate testing laboratories, improved infrastructure, etc.

Agro-Industry in Orissa

219. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to develop agro-industries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the Ninth Plan; and